

Friday, November 22, 2024
Millersville University
Fall 2024 Conference

*Shaping Tomorrow's Academic Libraries:
Practical Innovations*

8:30 - 9:00 AM - REGISTRATION

9:00 - 9:15 AM - WELCOME

- Sarah Myers, Messiah University

9:15-10:45 AM - KEYNOTE & WORKSHOP

- Unlocking Opportunity: Academic Libraries and Equity-Minded Campus Collaboration
- Amy Pajewski, Ron McColl, Grace Liu, and Mary Taale, West Chester University

10:45-11:00 AM - BREAK

11:00 AM - NOON - UNLEASHING THE POWER OF AI IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

- Matt Bergman, Elizabethtown College

12:00 - 1:00 PM - LUNCH

1:05 - 1:30 PM - ROUND TABLES

1:35 - 2:00 PM - ROUND TABLES

2:00 - 2:15 PM - BREAK

2:30-3 PM - TOURS OF MCNAIRY LIBRARY

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UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITY: ACADEMIC LIBRARIES AND EQUITY-MINDED CAMPUS COLLABORATION

Session Goals:

- Participants will identify potential opportunity gaps and specific barriers students face within their institutional context
- Participants will identify potential partners, develop ideas for collaborative initiatives, and
- Participants will create a directory of equity-minded colleagues focused on enhancing student success and inclusion

Session Overview:

Academic libraries play a vital role in closing equity and opportunity gaps by providing accessible resources, fostering inclusive learning environments, and supporting students' needs through tailored programs and partnerships. This interactive workshop will guide participants through the foundations of equity work and embodying the educator mindset for equity. The facilitators will share data that can be collected to inform the disparities students face and guide participants to use EAB's Barriers to Student Success guide to identify barriers at their own institutions. Attendees will collaborate to brainstorm internal and external partnerships and develop actionable initiatives to take back to their libraries.

UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITY: ACADEMIC LIBRARIES AND EQUITY-MINDED CAMPUS COLLABORATION

Keynote Speakers

Amy Pajewski is a Student Success Librarian & Associate Professor at West Chester University. She leads the library's First Year Writing instruction program in collaboration with a team of teaching librarians and co-chairs the University Libraries' Outreach Team. She collaborates with student success initiatives across campus, serves as the subject librarian for the Higher Education Policy & Student Affairs master's program at WCU, and team-liaisons to the Doctorate of Education students within the Higher Ed track. Her research interests include exploring pedagogy practices in gen ed information lit instruction, library impact on student success, & how to close equity and opportunity gaps for our students. As a first-gen student, her perspective on student needs and well-being guides her practice, and she strives to lead with compassion & empathy.

Ron McColl is an assistant professor, Special Collections Librarian, and Curator of the William Darlington Herbarium at West Chester University. His most recent scholarship addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion through the theoretical lenses of relational pedagogy and critical information literacy. He has written and spoken on the topics of power, mediation, marginalization, and silencing in archival practice.

UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITY: ACADEMIC LIBRARIES AND EQUITY-MINDED CAMPUS COLLABORATION

Keynote Speakers

Grace Liu is a Business Librarian & Associate Professor at West Chester University. Her research interests include information literacy, business data literacy, and student success. She has led several grant projects at WCU focused on these areas. She is the advisor of the research project on the Roles of Academic Libraries in Closing Equity and Opportunity Gaps. She collaborated with a business faculty in establishing a peer mentoring program for the College of Business and Public Management and integrated the library resources into the program. She also directed a project on evidence synthesis for ideas on enhancing college student retention and success.

Mary Taale is a Graduate Student in the Higher Education Policy & Student Affairs program at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. She supports the research project, Roles of Libraries in Closing Equity and Opportunity Gaps, by transcribing participant interviews and coding the qualitative data.

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF AI IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Artificial intelligence is becoming more than just a buzzword in today's educational landscape. It is becoming a powerful mechanism for positive change and personalization. The following presentation will provide practical tips for leveraging the power of AI to enhance research, accessibility, and productivity from an academic library perspective.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Dr. Matt Bergman is a self-described "UDL evangelist" committed to empowering educators in K-12 and higher education. His mission is to foster inclusive, accessible, and engaging learning environments where all students can thrive. Matt's expertise translates the UDL principles into practical strategies, particularly through lesson design, technology integration, artificial intelligence, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL).

Dr. Bergman currently serves as the Assessment and Curriculum Coordinator for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Elizabethtown College and as the Principal Education Consultant at Novak Education.

ROUND TABLES (SELECT 2)

- **1:05 - 1:30 PM - Round Tables**
- **1:35 - 2:00 PM - Round Tables**
- **Data-Driven Storytelling:** Exploring how libraries can harness data to effectively communicate their impact and engage stakeholders through compelling narratives.
- **Sustainable Libraries:** Discussing innovative practices and strategies for creating eco-friendly libraries
- **Student & Staff Wellness:** Examining how libraries can foster a culture of wellness
- **Future Library Job Descriptions:** Addressing the evolving skills and competencies required for library professionals in the face of technological and organizational changes.
- **Future of Student Workers:** Exploring ways to prepare student workers for future careers, enhance their roles, and improve mentorship and development opportunities.
- **Future of Distance Learners and the Library:** Discussing strategies to ensure equitable access, engagement, and support for remote learners
- **Capacity Building:** Exploring strategies for maintaining high-quality services despite lean staffing models, and the role of collaboration and technology in building capacity.
- **Harnessing New Technologies:** Investigating emerging technologies and how libraries can stay ahead of trends, develop relevant skills, and implement innovative solutions.
- **Open, Inclusive, and Diverse Libraries:** Focusing on how libraries can enhance diversity and inclusivity through collections, programming, and engagement with underrepresented communities.